

-----Original Message-----

From: LAURENCE E MATHEUS

Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2006 2:18 PM

To: Charter Commission

Subject: charter changes

We both feel that the county should be run by a Manager, rather than the council. this way they are both on the same board, and not at odds against each other and each ego. We came from a town in Calif that was run this way. Since that was many years ago, the council members (five) were only paid a small amount (\$50.) for their out of pocket expenses involved in their part time commitment. Between only the 5, the decision was made as to which one would do the acting mayor chores for the year. The mayor then got \$100. a month and he (s)he had to represent the council at the county supervisor's meetings, all public functions etc.

A manager is responsible to the council, and can be hired and fired for non performance of the job description. It is run like a business, not like a bottomless pit of money to spend on their favorite projects. The manager would know the costs from the prior year, therefor the budget would reflect the real amounts spent.

There would be commissions to run certain areas, police and firemen, etc and all heads would meet weekly to plan/report on their areas of expertise.

There should be checks and balances on all levels, monitored to the budget, job descriptions so we don't have people without proper qualifications as heads of departments.
like we have now.

Each job should be on merit, and the deadbeats should be fired. We really don't need a supervisor in a county truck, overseeing two more paving material trucks and a smaller pick up each with two or three men to patch a hole in the road, or to patch a broken water line with a strap, instead of replacing the whole line. If they got the job on merit, they should know how to do it, without 7 men watching the 8th dig a hole in the road.

Too many things get waylaid, lost or buried when it has to pass through so many hands.

Please consider the manager method of running our county. He would do the job, not be out glad handing at every election time, he would still be doing his work.

Marlys and Larry Matheus
Kapa'a, Hi 96746